



Working with the LEED for Homes Program

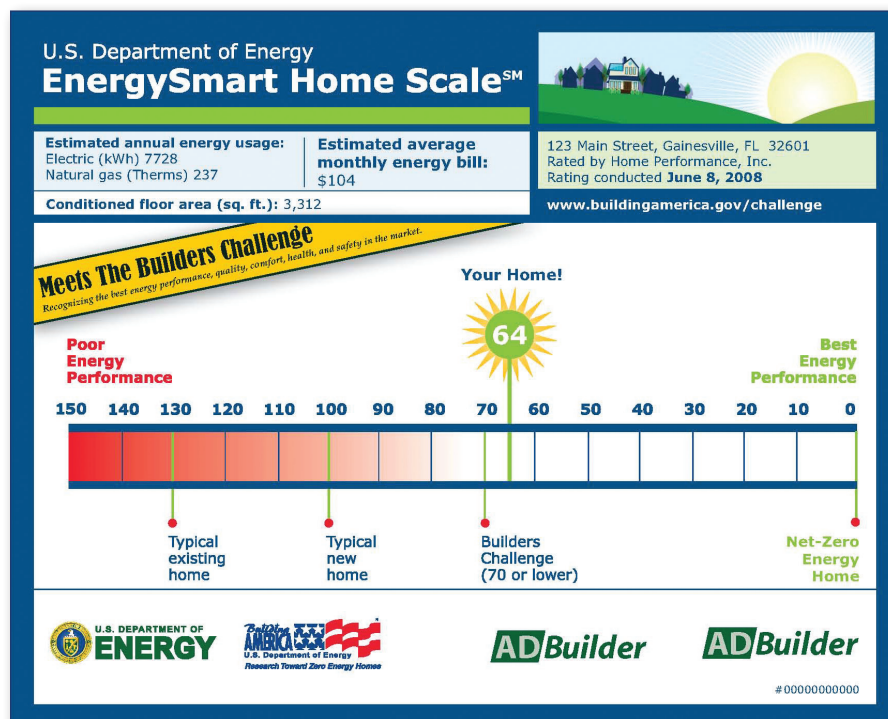
Spearheaded by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Builders Challenge invites homebuilders across America to build a new generation of high-performance homes using proven innovations, and to work toward the ultimate goal of providing cost-neutral, net-zero energy homes by 2030.

Working with National and Regional Green Building Programs

DOE carefully designed the Builders Challenge to work with existing energy and green building programs by providing credibility to the performance of qualifying homes and by adopting a standardized metric for whole-house energy performance. The Builders Challenge also complements these programs by:

- Partnering with programs to co-label high-performance homes as Builders Challenge homes
- Using the E-Scale label to communicate energy savings to consumers and to co-brand with builders and partners
- Producing and promoting the E-Scale, based on the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index
- Augmenting the existing framework of third-party verifiers, with flexibility to include others

The E-Scale: Energy Performance at a Glance ► The EnergySmart Home ScaleSM is an objective rating system to help buyers understand a particular home's energy efficiency in comparison to others. Builders place E-Scale labels on the power panels of qualifying homes; a 70 on the scale, for example, indicates that a home is 30 percent more energy efficient than a typical new home built to code.



A WIN-WIN FOR BUILDERS AND BUYERS

U.S. homebuilders of all sizes, from all areas of the country, report growing consumer interest in energy-efficient houses. Yet buyers often lack the information to make informed decisions, and builders may need additional resources to increase their visibility and galvanize sales. The Builders Challenge is a voluntary effort for homebuilders to showcase their best high-performance homes with the technical and marketing resources they need to spur consumer demand.

QUALIFYING A HOME TO MEET THE BUILDERS CHALLENGE

Qualifying homes must receive a rating of 70 or better on the E-Scale, build to a climate-specific Technology Information Package, or comply with a Challenge Partner Program at an equivalent level. See the reverse side of this page for additional requirements and visit www.buildingamerica.gov/challenge for detailed information.

BUILDERS CHALLENGE AND LEED FOR HOMES



To learn more about how the Builders Challenge complements the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for Homes program, refer to the information on the reverse side of this page.



Builders Challenge
Recognizing Energy Leadership
in Homebuilding

Meeting the Builders Challenge via the LEED For Homes Program

LEED for Homes is a national system for rating homes and measures environmental performance across eight categories. There is significant overlap between LEED for Homes provisions and those of the Builders Challenge. Homes that may qualify for both programs can use the Builders Challenge E-Scale to communicate superior energy performance.

To confirm that a home meets the energy and quality requirements of the Builders Challenge, either the LEED for Homes energy performance approach (EA 1) or prescriptive approach (EA 2–EA 9) can be used. Satisfying the energy provisions of the Builders Challenge assures at least 9.5 points towards compliance with the LEED for Homes Energy & Atmosphere section. Other provisions that are needed to satisfy the Challenge’s Quality Criteria can accrue up to an additional 24 points. The table below is a guide to show how a home can qualify for both designations.



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY**

**Energy Efficiency &
Renewable Energy**

EERE Information Center
1-877-EERE-INF (1-877-337-3463)
www.eere.energy.gov

Overview of Required LEED for Homes Provisions to Meet the Builders Challenge

Builders Challenge Requirement (only mandatory provisions listed)	LEED for Homes Section	Notes
Performance requirement of 70 or lower on the E-Scale (HERS Index) or Prescriptive requirement—meet the BC TIP package for the climate zone	EA 1.2 EA 2–EA 9	LEED for Homes awards 13 points in IECC climate zones 1–5; 9.5 points in zones 6–8. BC TIPS are climate-specific prescriptive packages which establish minimum system requirements.
Third-party verification	EA 1	LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 1: Project Documentation	Various	LEED for Homes requirement for measures with significant design component.
BCQC Requirement 2: Building Envelope Moisture Management and BCQC Requirement 23: Moisture Management Field Verification	ID 2.1 and EQ 1 ID 2.2 and EQ 1	Via ENERGY STAR indoor air package (IAP), LEED for Homes awards 13 points; or via Durability Planning. Via ENERGY STAR indoor air package, LEED for Homes awards 13 points; or via Durability Management.
BCQC Requirement 5: Space Conditioned Design	EA 1	Via ENERGY STAR for Homes (LEED for Homes requirement).
BCQC Requirement 10: ENERGY STAR® Windows	EA 1	LEED for Homes requires windows and glass doors that have NFRC ratings that meet or exceed the window requirements of the ENERGY STAR for Homes national Builder Option Package.
BCQC Requirement 11: Whole-Building Mechanical Ventilation I	EQ 1 or EQ 4.1	Via ENERGY STAR IAP or LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 12: Kitchen Ventilation	EQ 1 or EQ 5.1	Via ENERGY STAR IAP or LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 13: Bathroom Ventilation	EQ 1 or EQ 5.1	Via ENERGY STAR IAP or LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 14: Clothes Dryer Venting	ID 2.1	LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 15: Duct Leakage	EA 1 or EA 5	LEED for Homes requirement. BCQC require total duct leakage test in all cases.
BCQC Requirement 16: Air Barrier and Insulation Integrity	EA 1 or EA 2	LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 17: Filtration	EQ 1 or EQ 7.1	Via ENERGY STAR IAP or LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 18: Combustion Safety	EQ 1 or EQ 2.1	Via ENERGY STAR IAP or LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 19: Carbon Monoxide	EQ 1 or EQ 2.1	Via ENERGY STAR IAP or LEED for Homes requirement.
BCQC Requirement 22: Air Handler Location	EQ 1 or EQ 10.1	Via ENERGY STAR IAP or LEED for Homes requirement.